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REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in the patent application. The Examiner is requiring restriction between the two groups of claims; namely, Claims 1 and 2 of Group I and Claims 3-8 of Group II. At this time, Applicants withdraw Claims 3-8 from consideration and elect to prosecute Claims 1 and 2.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Snelling. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

The present application teaches and claims a network node device for connecting one or more telephone wirelines to one or more wireless connections, with the aim of providing dynamic selective bridging of calls based on privacy policies as input by the user. The invention includes one or more connections to one or more telephone wirelines; one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more wireless connections; an interconnection switch that makes and breaks one or more interconnections between the telephone wirelines and the respective wireless signal generators; and a bridge that dynamically and selectively

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bridges signals from multiple wireless connections to one or more of the telephone wirelines based on the privacy information input by the user (Claim 1) and may further include a verifier that verifies the validity of a request from a wireless device through a wireless connection for the bridging of signals (Claim 2). While multiple devices may share a telephone number, and the associated single wireline, the invention allows privacy to be invoked across the different devices.

The Snelling system is a single residence system which includes an NCU, 650, for interfacing to a number of PSTN lines and for rendering signals input on those lines compatible for delivery to the CAB module, 660. The CAB module is preprogrammed to connect signals from each PSTN line to a preset combination of devices (see: Col. 2, lines 24-34 and Col. 5, lines 25 et seq). As shown in Fig. 3A, the CAB is, in turn, connected to the radio multiplex engine 670 which performs the RF transmission to the handsets and WAUs specified by the CAB. The CAB/bridge of the Snelling system is preprogrammed with fixed assignments of signals from certain wirelines to certain devices. Applicants respectfully assert that the Snelling patent does not

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anticipate the invention as claimed. The Snelling patent has multiple wirelines, and therefore multiple different telephone numbers being fixedly associated with certain devices in the residence. Snelling does not teach or suggest the dynamic and selective bridging of signals incoming to a single telephone number and wireline to one or more than one device.

With regard to Claim 2, Applicants note that that the Snelling patent teaches, at the cited passage found in Col. 13, lines 56-64, that the NCU handles remote unit registration and authentication. Applicants respectfully assert that the NCU is not a separate component, as is the verifier which is claimed. Moreover, the functionality of the NCU which is detailed in the cited Snelling passage is not verifying the validity of a request from a wireless device through a wireless connection for the bridging of signals. Rather, the NCU registers the "remote" units within the single residence prior to use, as is expressly stated in Col. 2, lines 24-34, in accordance with programming for coupling signals to predetermined combinations of devices in the residence.

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It is well established under U.S. Patent Law that, for a reference to anticipate claim language under 35 USC 102, that reference must teach each and every claim feature. Since the Snelling patent teaches the CAB which has fixed programming for connecting incoming signals from different wirelines to certain devices, it cannot be maintained that the Snelling patent anticipates the claim language which explicitly recites a bridge for the dynamic and selective bridging of signals between wireless connections and the telephone wirelines.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the amended claim language in light of the remarks, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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